



Docket No.: 20529 (C36435/111697)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :)
Chyi-Cheng CHEN *et al.*)
Serial No.: 09/738,610)
Filed: December 15, 2000)
For: **L-ASCORBIC ACID AND PECTIN**)
COMPOSITION)

Examiner: B. Kwon

Art Unit: 1614

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION INCLUDING AMENDMENT

Box-Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 27, 2002, which set a three-month shortened statutory period for response. Accordingly, this response is filed timely upon mailing, with an executed certificate of mailing, on or before September 27, 2002. 37 CFR § 1.8. No fee is believed to be due. If it is determined that a fee is due, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

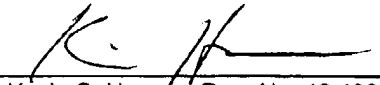
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Claims 22-34 have been added as noted above. Independent claims 22 and 29 recite that the composition has a compressibility that is superior to the compressibility of the same composition having a standard binder. (e.g., starch or hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC)) in place of the pectin binder. The rejection fails to identify any disclosure or suggestion in any of the cited documents that pectin in the amount recited in claims 22-34 would produce, inherently or otherwise, the superior compressibility obtained with the claimed invention. (See e.g., Examples 1-4 comparing the compressibility of a composition having solely a pectin binder to a conventional composition having a HPMC binder). Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 22-34 are allowable over the documents of record.

For the reasons set forth above, entry of the amendments and added claims, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 27, 2002.


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Respectfully submitted,

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